

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DOHA 00480 230855Z

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ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 SAM-01 IO-10 EB-07 TRSE-00 FRB-03

COME-00 CIEP-01 ACDA-05 /094 W
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R 230820Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY DOHA

TO SECSTATE WAHSDC 0384

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANAMA JCQWP

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

C O N F I D E N T I A L DOHA 0480

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR QA US XF

SUBJ: AMIR OF QATAR'S COMMENTS ON US MID EAST POLICY

1. SUMMARY: AMIR OF QATAR CRITICIZED U.S. CONGRESS FOR OB-
STRUCTING ADMINISTRATION EFFORTS TO PURSUE BALANCED MID EAST
POLICY. AMIR IS SEEKING MEANS TO MAKE CONGRESS SEE LIGHT OF
U.S. SELF-INTEREST IN MID EAST. HE BELIEVES U.S.-ARRANGED
MID EAST SETTLEMENT WOULD BRING MILLENNIUM TO AREA. END SUMMARY.

2. DURING APRIL 22 CONVERSATION, SHAYKH KHALIFA BIN HAMAD
AL THANI, AMIR OF QATAR, ACCUSED U.S. CONGRESS OF "OBSTRUCTING"
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PAGE 02 DOHA 00480 230855Z

ADMINISTRATION EFFORTS TO CONDUCT BALANCED

U.S. POLICY IN MID

EAST. AMIR ASKED RHETORICALLY WHAT ARABS COULD DO TO MAKE CONGRESS SEE THE LIGHT OF U.S. SELF-INTEREST IN MID EAST. I REMINDED AMIR THAT HE SHOULD NOT LOSE SIGHT OF FACT THAT U.S. CONGRESS PROVIDED GENERALLY ACCURATE REFLECTION OF U.S. PUBLIC OPINION, AND THIS IS THE WAY THE U.S. SYSTEM WORKED.

3. I NOTED THAT FACT-FINDING TOURS BY SENATORS PERCY AND MCGOVERN AND THEIR RECEPTION BY ARAB LEADERS, PLUS VISITS OF SUCH RESPECTED JOURNALISTS AS JOSEPH KRAFT, WERE HELPFUL IN PROJECTING MORE FAVORABLE IMAGE OF ARABS IN U.S., AND THIS WOULD HAVE ITS IMPACT IN TIME ON CONGRESS. I ALSO MENTIONED SKILLFUL STATESMANSHIP OF PRESIDENT SADAT AS GREAT ASSET TO ARAB CAUSE IN U.S. AMIR ACKNOWLEDGED THESE POINTS, AND TOOK UP HIS FAMILIAR REFRAIN THAT UNLESS U.S. ABLE TO STIMULATE MOTION TOWARD MIDDLE EAST SETTLEMENT, SADAT COULD FALL AND WITH HIM HOPES FOR PEACEFUL MID EAST SOLUTION. AMIR DECLARED THAT MODERATE ARAB POLICY HAD RESTED ON TWO PILLARS, SADAT AND FAISAL; WITH FAISAL GONE, SADAT BEARING FULL BURDEN AND TIME AWASTING.

4. AMIR THEN DISCOURSED AT SOME LENGTH ON THE POINT THAT A U.S.-ARRANGED SOLUTION FOR MID EAST CRISIS WOULD BRING MILLENNIUM TO AREA. HE ASSERTED THAT THE FRAUDULENT FACADE OF SO-CALLED ARAB SOCIALISM AND SOVIET INFLUENCE WOULD FADE QUICKLY IN FAVOR OF REASSERTION OF BASIC TENETS OF ISLAM AND TRADITION OF CLOSE ARAB TIES WITH U.S. AND WESTERN EUROPE, WITH WHICH ARAB WORLD HAD DEEP SPIRITUAL AND CULTURAL COMPATIBILITY. AS EXAMPLE, HE POINTED TO RAPID DEMISE OF VAUNTED ARAB SOCIALISM OF NASSER AND SAID HE CONVINCED THAT BAATHI VERSIONS IN IRAQ AND SYRIA COULD RAPIDLY GO SAME ROUTE. AMIR QUIPPED THAT IN PRACTICAL TERMS, QATAR'S WELFARE STATE AND EVEN U.S. SYSTEM MORE SOCIALIST THAN SO-CALLED SOCIALIST REGIMES IN ARAB WORLD. AMIR STATED THAT COMMUNISM OR SOCIALISM CAN ONLY TAKE HOLD WHERE THERE IS COMBINATION OF TYRANNY AND POVERTY, AND MODERN ARAB WORLD HAS WEALTH AND INTENTION TO BRING END TO TYRANNY AND POVERTY IN AREA.

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